

What is claimed is:

1. A cassette for storing a stimuable phosphor sheet having a stimuable phosphor layer formed on a sheet-form substrate, the stimuable phosphor sheet being used for recording a radiation image therein, the cassette comprising:

an emitter for emitting an erasing light to the sheet stored in the cassette;

a power supply for causing the emitter to emit the erasing light; and

a control circuit for controlling a time of emission from the emitter powered by the power supply.

2. A cassette as defined in Claim 1, wherein the control circuit controls the time of the emission based on control information input from outside thereof.

3. A cassette as defined in Claim 2, wherein the control circuit controls the time of the emission based on the control information output from an apparatus for photographing the radiation image in the stimuable phosphor sheet.

4. A cassette as defined in Claim 2, wherein the control circuit controls the time of the emission based on the control information output from an apparatus for registering photographing information regarding the stimuable phosphor sheet.

5. A cassette as defined in Claim 2, wherein the control circuit controls the time of the emission based on the control information output from an apparatus for reading radiation image

information from the stimulable phosphor sheet.

6. A cassette as defined in any one of Claims 2 to 5, further comprising a terminal for receiving the control information from the outside thereof.

5 7. A cassette as defined in any one of Claims 2 to 5, further comprising a radio reception means for receiving the control information from the outside thereof.

8. A cassette as defined in any one of Claims 2 to 5, further comprising an infrared reception means for receiving the control information from the outside thereof.

10 9. A cassette as defined in Claim 1, wherein the power supply comprises a rechargeable secondary battery.

10. A cassette as defined in Claim 9, wherein the secondary battery is a lithium-ion battery.

15 11. A cassette as defined in Claim 9 or 10, further comprising means for receiving a charging electric current supplied from outside of the secondary battery to the secondary battery.

20 12. A cassette as defined in Claim 1, wherein the emitter comprises a non-organic or organic electroluminescence material.

13. A cassette as defined in Claim 1, wherein the emitter is placed facing a surface of the stimulable phosphor sheet on a side of the stimulable phosphor layer.

25 14. A cassette as defined in Claim 1, the stimulable phosphor sheet having the stimulable phosphor layer formed on

the substrate that allows the erasing light to pass through,
and

the emitter being placed facing a surface of the stimuable phosphor sheet on a side of the substrate.

5 15. A cassette as defined in Claim 1, the stimuable phosphor sheet having the stimuable phosphor layer formed on the substrate that allows the erasing light to pass through, and

10 the emitter being placed facing a surface of the stimuable phosphor sheet on a side of the stimuable phosphor layer and facing a surface of the stimuable phosphor sheet on a side of the substrate.

15 16. A cassette as defined in Claim 1, further comprising display means for indicating that the emission from the emitter is going on and/or completed.

17. A cassette as defined in Claim 1, further comprising:
time measuring means for measuring a time elapsed after completion of the emission from the emitter; and

20 re-erasing control means for causing the emitter to emit the erasing light again when the elapsed time measured by the time measuring means reaches a predetermined amount of time.

25 18. A cassette as defined in Claim 1, further comprising warning means for issuing a warning if the emitter is still emitting the erasing light when information indicating that the cassette is in a photography stand-by state is input thereto.

19. A cassette as defined in Claim 18, further comprising

detection means for detecting the photography stand-by state of the cassette for radiation image photographing and for inputting the information indicating the stand-by state to the warning means.

5 20. A cassette as defined in Claim 1, further comprising emission stopping means for stopping the emission from the emitter if the emitter is still emitting the erasing light when information indicating that the cassette is in a photography stand-by state is input thereto.

10 21. A cassette as defined in Claim 20, further comprising detection means for detecting the stand-by state of the cassette for radiation image photographing and for inputting the information indicating the photography stand-by state to the emission stopping means.

15 22. A radiation image photographing apparatus using the cassette defined in Claim 3, the radiation image photographing apparatus comprising:

20 means for inputting information related to a radiation dosage for the stimuable phosphor sheet as the control information to the control circuit of the cassette.

23. A radiation image photographing apparatus using the cassette defined in Claim 18, the radiation image photographing apparatus comprising:

25 detection means for detecting the stand-by state of the cassette for radiation image photographing and for inputting the information indicating the photography stand-by state to

the warning means of the cassette.

24. A radiation image photographing apparatus using the cassette defined in Claim 20, the radiation image photographing apparatus comprising:

5 detection means for detecting the stand-by state of the cassette for radiation image photographing and for inputting the information indicating the photography stand-by state to the emission stopping means of the cassette.

10 25. A photographing information registration apparatus for registering information regarding radiation image photographing using the cassette defined in Claim 4, the photographing information registration apparatus comprising:

15 means for inputting information related to a radiation dosage for the stimuable phosphor sheet as the control information to the control circuit of the cassette.

20 26. A photographing information registration apparatus for registering information regarding radiation image photographing using the cassette defined in Claim 18, the photographing information registration apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting the stand-by state of the cassette for the radiation image photographing and for inputting the information indicating the photography stand-by state to the warning means of the cassette.

25 27. A photographing information registration apparatus for registering information regarding radiation image photographing using the cassette defined in Claim 20, the

photographing information registration apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting the stand-by state of the cassette for the radiation image photographing and for inputting the information indicating the photography stand-by state to the emission stopping means of the cassette.

28. A radiation image information reading apparatus for reading the radiation image information from the stimuable phosphor sheet stored in the cassette defined in Claim 5, the radiation image information reading apparatus comprising:

means for inputting information related to a dosage of radiation for the stimuable phosphor sheet as the control information to the control circuit of the cassette.